

REMARKS

This Application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action mailed May 25, 2006 (the "Office Action"). Claims 1-6, 9-16, 19-26, 29 and 30 are pending in the application. The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6, 10-16, 20-26 and 30 and has objected to Claims 9, 19 and 29. Applicants amend Claims 1, 10-11, 20-21 and 30 and cancel Claims 2-3, 9, 12-13, 19, 22-23 and 29. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and favorable action in this case in view of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that Claims 9, 19 and 29 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 10 and 20 to recite the elements of their dependent claims indicated as allowable. For at least these reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of independent Claims 1, 10 and 20 and all claims depending therefrom.

CONCLUSION

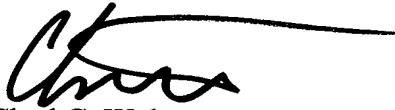
Applicants have made an earnest attempt to place this case in condition for allowance. For the foregoing reasons, and for other apparent reasons, Applicants respectfully request full allowance of all pending Claims.

If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference or an interview would advance prosecution of this Application in any manner, the undersigned attorney for Applicants stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

Applicants believe no fee is due. However, should there be a fee discrepancy, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. **02-0384** of **Baker Botts L.L.P.**

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants



Chad C. Walters
Reg. No. 48,022

Date: July 25, 2006

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS:

Customer Number: **05073**
Attorney Docket No.: 062891.0562